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Progression! - Advances in African American Archaeology

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Progression! - Advances in African American Archaeology

Note from column editor

Carol McDavid

When I asked Terry Epperson to write the inaugural contribution for the new "Progression" column, I did so for a couple of reasons. First, I wanted to position this forum as a source of thought provoking and, occasionally, even controversial ideas about ways that historical archaeologists might approach African Diaspora archaeology more productively. Since I was familiar with Terry's ideas about the potential usefulness of Critical Race Theory for our discipline, I was confident that his contribution would provide the critical perspective that I sought.

Second, I hoped that you, our readers, might be moved respond to Terry's ideas with the understanding that these responses may be included in future issues. This forum is designed to be open, informal, provocative and, if possible, dialogic. I think that Terry raises some important points about racism and "race obliviousness" points that all of us who work in this field (or, arguably, any field and any discipline) would do well to consider. You may agree, or not either way, we'd like to hear from you.

I hope you will also let me know of any suggestions you might have for contributors to this column; at this point we plan to do this column biannually, so the next 'deadline' for contributions will be November, 1999. Please email me at (cam35@cam.ac.uk) with any ideas you have.